

**Remarks**

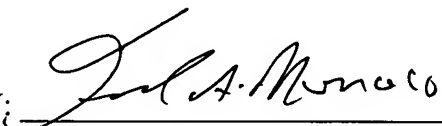
Claims 1-6 were pending in the application before this amendment. Claims 1-6 are now canceled. The PCT application as filed also included claims 7-9, which were canceled by amendment under Article 19 PCT on 17 November 2003. To avoid any ambiguity, claims 7-9 are treated as canceled claims, and the new claims filed in this amendment are numbered beginning at 10. Claims 10-18 are new.

The claims have been amended to conform more closely with U.S. stylistic and linguistic practice. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

The opportunity has been taken to include a brief listing of the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.74.

Entry of the amendment and an early action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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